

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 8, 13 and 19 are independent. Claims 1, 3-9, 12-14, 16-21 have been rejected. Claims 2, 10, 11 and 15 have been objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Independent claims 1, 3, 8, 13 and 19 are herein amended. Dependent claims 6, 9, 11, 14 and 15 are also amended for the consistencies with the independent claims. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-9, 12-14, 16-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,754,895 to Nishino ("Nishino").

Nishino discloses a photographic camera having a movable part driven by an electric motor. The pulse signal for feedback control of the motor is divided by pulse number into a high-speed portion signal and a low-speed portion signal.

On the other hand, the present invention uses a normalized value in communicating the control commands that control the moving member of the optical apparatus. Thus, any moving member of the optical units can be used under the same control setup. See, for example, page 14, lines 8-13 of the original specification.

Applicant respectfully asserts that Nishino does not disclose the aspect of the claimed invention as described above, i.e., the use of a normalized value in communicating the control

commands.

Independent claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 13 and 19 have been amended to further clarify the above-described feature of the present invention. For example, claim 1 as amended recites “a determination circuit which determines a driving speed of the moving member on the basis of position data that represents the movable range with a normalized value, speed data represented in accordance with a normalized speed changing ratio, and a value representing an actual moving range of the moving member within the movable range.”

Amended claim 3 recites “a changing circuit which changes the number of position information representing the movable range as another normalized number, in accordance with time information required to move the moving member within the movable range, wherein the drive circuit drives the moving member at a speed determined by said determination circuit.”

Each of other independent claims (i.e., claims 4, 8, 13 and 19) commonly recites a determination circuit that determines a driving speed of the moving member on the basis of the normalized position data and the normalized speed data.

Applicant respectfully asserts that Nishino fails to show or suggest at least the features of the present invention in the independent claims as described above. Accordingly, Applicant believes that each of independent claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 13 and 19 as amended is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of Nishino.

Applicant has not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because the independent claims from which those claims respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicant however reserves the right to address such rejections of

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the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Claims 2, 10, 11 and 15 have been objected to as depending from rejected base claims. Applicant respectfully submits that, as the independent claims from which the objected claims depend are hereby placed in condition for allowance, these claims as pending are thereby also placed in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

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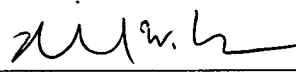
AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4600). **A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.**

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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